



# *The West Springfield* **SHIELD**



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## FAIRFAX COUNTY CRIME SOLVERS

CALLERS MAY  
REMAIN  
ANONYMOUS  
1-866-411-TIPS

[fairfaxcrimesolvers.org](http://fairfaxcrimesolvers.org)



MARK YOUR CALANDAR

**SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 2008**

# START THE SUMMER SAFE EVENT

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC      FREE ADMISSION

HOURS ARE 9:00AM to 3:00PM

### FEATURING:

- VIN ETCHING   • SEAT BELT CONVINCER
- CHILD FINGERPRINTING   • BIKE RODEO
- CHILD SAFETY SEAT INSPECTION
- NEIGHBORHOOD INFORMATION
- McGRUFF, THE CRIME DOG
- FOOD SERVICE AVAILABLE



ALL THIS AND MORE!!

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT STATION  
6140 ROLLING ROAD  
SPRINGFIELD, VA

A NON-PERISHIBLE FOOD DONATION SITE



## Fairfax County K-9 Named Iron Dog In Regional Competition



MPO Mark Dale  
K-9 "Niko"

PFC Mike Gubesch  
Iron Dog "Justice"

Two Fairfax County police officers and their K-9 partners participated in an Iron Dog competition on Wednesday, May 21. The event was coordinated by the Virginia Police Canine Association and took place at Great Meadow, The Plains, Virginia. Twenty-eight officers and their dogs from West Virginia, Maryland and Virginia competed in a 10-event course covering 1.25 miles. The competition included the following events:

Area Search  
Lift (K-9 clears a fence)  
Muzzle Work  
Distracter Area  
Apprehension

Narcotic or Explosive Find  
Gun Battle with Cover/Concealment  
Agility  
Vehicle Narcotic/Explosive Find  
Finish (Dog runs to specified area and is commanded to sit)

Master Police Officer Mark Dale with K-9 Niko and Private First Class Mike Gubesch with K-9 Justice both competed to represent Fairfax County Police. Their commitment and dedication to training represents them and the department very well.

PFC Gubesch and Justice placed first in the Narcotic Detection and Muzzle Work courses. They placed second in the Gun Battle and Apprehension courses. They also came in first place for the overall competition and Justice was named "Iron Dog." PFC Gubesch completed the entire 1.25 mile course in 8 minutes and 57 seconds. The average time was over 14 minutes.



**DON'T BE A PARTY TO **TEENAGE DRINKING.****  
**IT'S AGAINST THE LAW.**



The Asian Law Enforcement Society (ALES) & the Fairfax County Police Department are hosting the first Asian Community Forum & Dialogue. Come learn the very latest about issues that affect you, your family, communities & businesses.

Topics include:

- Gangs— Experts will tell you what you need to know about prevention and how to avoid being victimized
- Financial crimes— Learn how to protect yourself, on the internet and everywhere
- Asian leader dialogue— Where are we now? Where do we need to be? Join this facilitated conversation between leaders & law enforcement
- JOB OPPORTUNITIES— Law enforcement representatives from local, state & federal agencies will answer any of your questions and talk about you and your career!

**June 14, 2008  
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Fairfax County  
Criminal Justice  
Academy  
14601 Lee Road  
Chantilly, VA 20151**

**For more information, contact Detective Lam Nguyen  
703-246-2440.**



### **Neighborhood Watch Coordinators Meeting.**

June 16, 2008 starting at 7:30 PM  
Annandale Neighborhood Center  
Rear of Annandale High School  
4700 Medford Drive, Annandale VA





**FAIRFAX COUNTY**  
**POLICE**  
**DEPARTMENT**  
**TRAFFIC**  
**DIVISION**

**Yearly fatal crash  
totals:**

**To date, there have  
been**

**8**

**Persons Killed in  
Crashes on  
Our Roadways!**



**HELP REDUCE  
INJURIES RESULTING  
FROM CRASHES. WEAR  
YOUR SAFETY BELTS!**

**LAW OF THE MONTH:  
Mount Vernon Community Parking District**

On March 10, 2008 the Fairfax County Board of supervisors approved the Mount Vernon Community Parking District (CPD) based on Fairfax County Code 82-5B. If you live in the West Springfield Police District you still might be affected by this new parking restriction because you may be considered part of the Mt Vernon Supervisor District

As of May 1, police began ticketing vehicles parked in violation of the Community Parking District (CPD) regulations recently established in the Mount Vernon Magisterial District. A “tow tag,” a warning ticket and an informational flier will be attached to the vehicle. The owner will have 48 hours to move the vehicle. If the vehicle remains in the CPD after the initial 48-hour period, a parking ticket will be issued with an additional 48 hours to move the vehicle. If the vehicle is not removed from the CPD following the second 48 hours, it will be towed.

For a map of the Mount Vernon District CPD and more information on a large area CPD, go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/large\\_cpd.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/large_cpd.htm). To report a vehicle in violation of the CPD regulations, call the Police Department’s non-emergency number, 703-691-2131

Vehicles that are not allowed on public streets in residential areas in the Mount Vernon Community Parking District are

- Boat trailer.
- Watercraft.
- Motor home.
- Camping trailer.
- Trailer or semi-trailer, even if attached to a vehicle.
- Vehicle with three or more axles.
- Vehicle with a gross vehicle weighted rating (GVWR) of 12,000 pounds or more.
- Vehicle transporting 16 or more passengers (except school buses).

There is an exemption for vehicles temporarily parked (for up to 48 hours) for the purpose of loading, unloading or preparing for a trip.

**FCPD QUESTIONS FOR YOU****By John Bauer, VIPS****DO YOU KNOW:****What the second most common crime is after Identity Theft?****How these items disappear other than as a result of outright theft?**

The FBI estimates that after identity theft, the next most common crime is the theft of laptop computers. In 2005 laptops outsold desktop models in the United States for the first time and with newer, faster models being introduced each year, this statistic is bound to grow. The modern laptop will do everything its deskbound cousin will do and in many instances, even more. It enables anyone to conduct business, make reservations, purchase tickets, watch movies, play games, surf the Internet, utilize mapping and GPS programs and a host of other applications. Thieves know this and that is why laptops are popular targets. It only takes a few minutes for a laptop to be stolen. A unit left on a table or in a bag in a

crowded coffee house can be gone by the time the victim gets the order and returns to the table. Be especially watchful at airport and other security check areas. Generally, laptop theft is a little publicized crime, but when one is stolen from government or industry and its hard drive contains reams of personal or strategic information, it is likely to get front page coverage.

Disappearance of a laptop does not always mean it was stolen. Owners leave literally hundreds in libraries, Internet cafes, coffee houses, hotels, movie theatres, terminals and on trains, planes, boats, buses. Many times, these are recovered, whereas stolen units may not be. A stolen laptop may bring as much as \$500 at a pawn shop. Aside from the loss of a valuable item, information contained on the hard drive can be many times more valuable, or at least sensitive. It could cost many thousands of dollars to replace if that is even possible. Many times, photos and documents contained on hard drives are one of a kind with no backup and are impossible to replace at any cost. Obviously, this calls for the owner to take steps to insure that the machine is not misplaced or stolen and to back up the information contained in a separate place should something happen.

The easiest step you can take to protect a laptop is to never let it out of your sight. Do not carry it in a common laptop bag that makes its contents obvious. Try to keep it in a backpack or other container. Foam padding is available in crafts stores that will offer ample protection against physical damage. Keep the bag between your feet in restaurants and similar places. If you leave the table for any reason, take it with you or have a companion watch it. If it is not in use at work, keep it out of view in a locked drawer. Leaving a laptop in a vehicle is never a good idea because of temperature extremes, but if you must leave it, put it in the trunk before you leave for your destination. Car safes are available which may be bolted in the trunk and can hold laptops and other valuables. These are an excellent investment if you frequently have to leave small valuables in your vehicle. Should you have to leave your laptop out, such as in an office or even a restaurant, utilize the universal security slot (USS) which most laptops have and a locking cable which is available at computer stores. As with residential locks, you generally get what you pay for, so get the best you can afford. Use available labels which have removal protection to identify your computer, power supply, removable hard drive and other accessories. Labels should be placed where they can be easily seen. The mere presence of such labels might deter a grab and run theft because the thief knows he will have trouble removing the label in a hurry and will have no defense if caught in the act. Motion sensors are available for laptops which will sound a piercing alarm should the laptop be moved while the device is armed. Radio Frequency ID tags or microdots will help identify the laptop if it is stolen and recovered. Keep a list of all model and serial numbers in a safe place.

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Now that you have taken steps to keep your laptop safe, here are some tips to help you safeguard the contents of your hard drive. First and easiest is to password protect your boot up, a process known as setting a BIOS password. This means that a password is required each time the laptop is powered up. This may seem like a pain but it is fast and will prevent unauthorized persons from booting up your laptop. Not only is this a first step in safeguarding information on your hard drive but it will prevent the laptop from being pawned if the pawnshop personnel check the unit before pawning it. Many laptops protected in this manner require sending the unit to the manufacturer to get the unlock password read and reset. No thief is going to do that because it takes time and leaves a paper trail. Other steps are to password protect each file on your hard drive or install some sort of encryption program.



Finally, several companies offer a Lo-Jack® type system that can be installed on your hard drive. If the computer is connected to the Internet by an authorized person, it will send out an alert allowing the unit to be tracked by authorities.

A few extra seconds of prevention can save you considerable headaches. Safeguard your laptop.

## Crime Prevention Program Recognized

Fairfax County has, one again, been named a Certified Crime Prevention Community by the Criminal Justice Services Board of Virginia.

The Certified Crime Prevention Community program was created in 1998 by a directive from the governor's Commission for Community Safety.

Fairfax County and 14 other jurisdictions in Virginia were named for sending a strong message that crime will not be tolerated and the governing officials take all reasonable efforts to eliminate it.



Two Fairfax County Police Department programs were specifically highlighted:



**Road DAWG (Don't Associate With Gangs) Summer Camp** which helps young people enhance their decision making skills enabling them to resist the draw of gangs and drugs.

**ChildSafeNet's P'CASO ( Protecting Children Against Sex Offenders) Program** which included Fairfax County Police as the first law enforcement partner in their mission of protecting children from dangerous predators on the internet and in the community

## GOVERNOR KAINE ANNOUNCES MORTGAGE CLINICS TO BE HELD IN JUNE

*~ Counselors will provide foreclosure prevention advice ~*

RICHMOND – Governor Timothy M. Kaine announced the schedule for a series of free regional mortgage clinics to help Virginians avoid home foreclosure. The clinics will be hosted by the Virginia Foreclosure Prevention Task Force, which was formed by Governor Kaine in November 2007 to help protect and preserve homeownership in the Commonwealth. The clinics will be held throughout the Commonwealth in June, coinciding with national Homeownership Month.

"If you have concerns about the health of your mortgage, I encourage you to sign up for one of these free mortgage clinics," said Governor Kaine. "Whether you are just beginning to have trouble making your mortgage payments or you are already in foreclosure, our hope is that the information you receive at the clinics will help you keep your home."

The clinics will include general foreclosure prevention information, as well as individual foreclosure counseling sessions with certified housing counselors trained in loss mitigation and foreclosure prevention. Clinics will last approximately 90 minutes, including a 30-minute general session and the free foreclosure counseling.

"These free mortgage clinics will benefit communities across Virginia," said Susan Dewey, Executive Director of the Virginia Housing Development Authority. "Attendees will learn about the importance of contacting their lender at the first sign of trouble, working with a housing counselor, knowing their foreclosure prevention options, prioritizing spending plans and avoiding foreclosure scams."

Each clinic will include a short video message from Governor Kaine outlining how the Virginia Foreclosure Prevention Task Force's actions are providing proactive assistance to distressed homeowners.

Walk-ins are welcome at the clinics, however space for the individual counseling sessions is limited and pre-registration is strongly encouraged. To register for a clinic counseling session, please visit the Virginia Foreclosure Prevention Task Force website at [www.VirginiaForeclosurePrevention.com](http://www.VirginiaForeclosurePrevention.com). The website also offers important foreclosure prevention tips and provides a list of Virginia certified housing counselors who can help Virginians assess their situation and offer specific suggestions.

"Don't ignore the symptoms of foreclosure," said Dewey. "Come learn what to say when you call your lender. The sooner you act, the better your chance of saving your home."

June 21, 2008  
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Chantilly  
Chantilly High School  
4201 Stringfellow Road  
Chantilly, Virginia

Woodbridge  
Northern Virginia Community College  
Woodbridge Campus  
15200 Neabsco Mills Road  
Woodbridge, Virginia



West Springfield District Station  
6140 Rolling Road  
Springfield, VA 22152  
Phone: 703-644-7377

Crime Prevention Unit  
703-644-5026

Email:

Peter.Feigleson@Fairfaxcounty.gov



*A Fairfax County,  
VA, Publication*

Fairfax County has adopted regulations to promote public health, safety and general welfare. These regulations are enforced by different agencies within the county. To view a brochure that lists the most common neighborhood issues and the agencies responsible for addressing them please visit:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/faqs/concerns.htm>

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**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**

**WWW.FAIRFAXCOUNTY.GOV**

By working together we can keep our neighborhoods vibrant, clean and wonderful places in which to live.

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*To request this information in an alternate format, call the West Springfield Crime Prevention Office at 703-644-5026. TTY 703-204-2264.*



## Our West Springfield Team

**Station Commander**

*Captain Bruce Ferguson*

**Assistant Commander**

*Lieutenant David Crank*

**Crime Prevention Unit**

*MPO Pete Feigleson*

## S.T.R.I.K.E. Team

*(Strategic Traffic & Roadway Initiatives, Knowledge & Education for citizens)*

*PFC Dave Parker*

*PFC Jonathan Watkins*

*PFC Jim Vesper*

*PFC Thomas Champ*

**Crime Analyst**

*Angelique Abbott*

